

The CIRCLE of LIFE JOURNEY

Session 6 Respect for All, Including the Migrant

As our JOURNEY continues . . .
Leaving their homelands
for a multitude of reasons
who MIGRATE with the hope of being
welcomed into a new CIRCLE OF LIFE . . .



War
refugees

Seeking
work

Seeking
freedom

Political
refugees

Reuniting
family



Seeking a
better life

Famine

Fleeing
genocide

Economic
refugees

Forced
migration

Natural
disaster

Seeking
asylum



"I wonder as I wander,
out under the sky

How Jesus the savior,
did come . . . to die



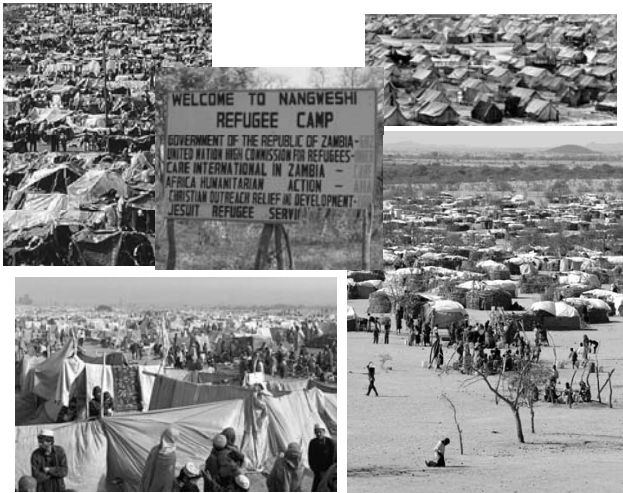
To save lowly people
like you and like I

I wonder as I wander . . .
out under the sky."



♪ American folk song ♪





Give me your tired . . .
 your poor . . .
 . . . your huddled
 masses yearning
 to breathe free . . .

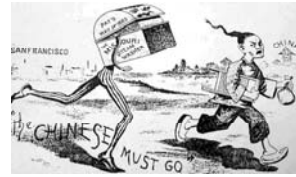


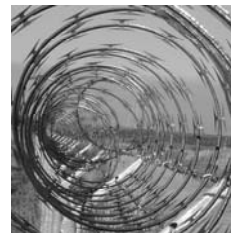
. . . the wretched
 refuse of your
 teeming shore . . .
 . . . send these,
 the homeless,
 tempest-tossed to me . . .

. . . I lift my lamp
beside the golden door!



"The New Colossus" —poem by Emma Lazarus



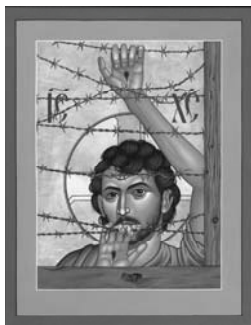




*Respect for all,
including
THE MIGRANT*



We the bishops of Mexico
& the United States . . .



seek to awaken
our peoples
to the mysterious
presence
of the crucified
and risen Lord

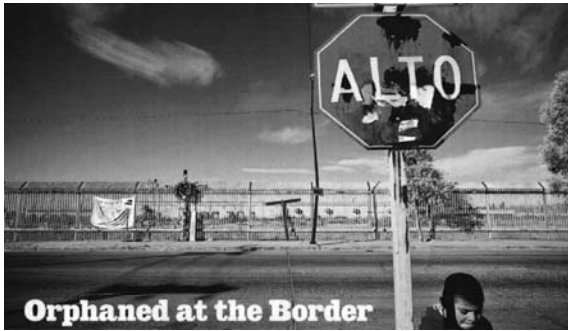
in the PERSON
of the MIGRANT.

We witness
the vulnerability of our people
involved in all sides
of the migration phenomenon,



including families
devastated by the loss
of loved ones who have
undertaken the migration journey . . .

. . . and children left alone
when parents are
removed from them.



It is important to remember
the difficult experiences
many of our brothers and sisters



have of being
strangers
in a new land . . .

. . . and to
welcome those
who come
to be
among us.

"Strangers No Longer" Pastoral Letter
U.S. & Mexican Bishops

Jesus, Mary, & Joseph
themselves were
refugees in Egypt . . .



The Holy Family
has become a figure with
whom Christian migrants
and refugees



throughout the ages
can identify,
giving them
hope and courage
in hard times.

What the Church teaches:



1. Persons have the right
to find opportunities
in their homeland.



2. Persons have
the right to migrate
to support themselves
and their families.



3. Sovereign nations
have the right
to control
their borders.

4. Refugees and
asylum seekers
should be afforded
protection.



5. The human dignity
and human rights
of undocumented migrants
should be respected.



Pope John XXIII
placed limits on immigration . . .
when there are "just reasons for it."

Nevertheless, he stressed the obligation
of sovereign states to promote
the universal good where possible,

including an obligation to
accommodate migration flows.

For more powerful nations,
a stronger obligation exists.



We therefore,
must welcome all persons . . .
and do so with special care
for those who find themselves
— regardless of motive —
in situations of poverty,
marginalization,
and exclusion . . .



. . . *For the Lord says to us:*

"I was a stranger
and you welcomed me . . .



. . . Come now into my Kingdom."

Our Prayer

Lord Jesus, help us to recognize You
in the face of the stranger
and welcome Your presence
among us.

You have graced us
with the gifts
of many cultures and nations.

Free us from the fear of those
from other lands . . .

Teach us
to share our gifts
with newcomers in return,
so that You may say

"I was a stranger
and you welcomed me."

We ask this in Your name,
from the Father,
through the power of
the Holy Spirit . . .

Amen

Harp music © by Carolyn Ancell
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